

Volume 5 Round 1 February 2002
P.O. Box 88 Pennant Hills 1715 Phone / Fax 02 9481 0574
E-mail: swtd@bigpond.com

CAPERCAILLIE 'THE CLAN' Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc 1999: Winemaker Alasdair Sutherland.
Winemaker's Notes: "The 1999 'The Clan' exhibits a softer, richer palate structure while retaining the cassis and berry aromas and flavours we are seeking. Maturation has again taken place in a combination of new, one and two year old French and American oak barriques." **Cellar:** "Great drinking now, but three to five years quiet cellaring will certainly reward the patient enthusiast."

CHARLES STURT UNIVERSITY CABERNET SAUVIGNON / MERLOT 2000: Winemaker Greg Gallagher

Winemaker's Notes: "The wine is a blend of premium Cabernet Sauvignon (70%), Merlot (25%) and Cabernet Franc (5%) grapes grown in the University vineyards adjacent to the CSU winery. The components of the wine were fermented separately ensuring the outstanding fruit characters of the grape varieties remain dominant. The wine was then matured in a combination of French and American oak barrels for nine months prior to blending and bottling. The wine has intense colour with deep purple hues, the bouquet an excellent balance of rich fruit and subtle oak. The palate is soft, full and generous with layers of sweet ripe fruit flavours in balance with fine firm tannins ensuring excellent medium term cellaring potential. " **Cellar:** 5 to 8 years.

CLEVELAND HEATHCOTE SHIRAZ 1999: Winemaker Keith Brien.

Winemaker's Notes: "The colour is deep blackish purple. Bouquet, a vinous, spicy aroma leads to hints of white pepper and smokey sweet oak characters. On the palate broad spicy fruit offers a big rich Shiraz / berry middle palate with some hints of Mocha and lengthy drying tannins to balance the finish." **Cellar:** 8 to 10 years with ease. "After cellar aging this wine will throw a heavy 'crust' and should be carefully decanted before serving."

d'ARENBERG THE MONEY SPIDER ROUSSANNE 2001: Winemaker Chester Osborn

Winemaker's Notes: "The 2001 vintage in McLaren Vale produced rich, ripe fruit flavours of great depth. This, our first Roussanne release, shows intense varietal characters, which were protected by the use of our traditional basket presses and temperature controlled fermentation. In its youth the wine has a brilliant mid straw colour with lifted nectarine, white peach, citrus and honey, as well as spices and a touch of gooseberry. These also dominate the young palate where nectarine and white peaches develop into citrus, honey and spice." **Cellar:** At this stage treat as an early drinking proposition.

HELM RESERVE BLEND 2000:

Winemaker Ken Helm.

Winemaker's Notes: "This Reserve Blend is the Flagship of the Helm stable, and is an impressive, well structured blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Cabernet Franc, all produced from very mature vines grown in the Canberra region. It has dense red colour and a lifted berry nose. The palate is complex and dominated by spicy blackcurrant fruit flavours, with excellent soft tannins and a very long finish. An outstanding red, demonstrating the benefit of the winemaker's nearly thirty years of grape growing and winemaking in the region." **Cellar:** "This wine can be cellared for at least ten years for richer development."

LIEBICHWEIN THE LOFTY CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2000:

Winemaker Ron Liebich.

Winemaker's Notes: "Pungent, powerful violet aromas override a strong, yet subtle French oak base. At only three quarters of a tonne per acre in a difficult year, on 32 year old vines suffering the ravages of dead arm disease, this wine is justifiably essence of fruit, and will reward long term cellaring, although great drinking now. This unfiltered wine consequently exhibits a nose and palate of considerable depth and character. The deep, dark violet overtones of the fruit, are complimented by the gentle Nevers and Vosges oak maturation, thus promoting a long lingering finish." **Cellar:** Potential 10 to 20 years.

MIRAMAR CABERNET SAUVIGNON 1999:

Winemaker Ian MacRae.

Winemaker's Notes: "Beautiful deep rich colour with a nose and fore-palate of dark cherries. Lovely soft middle palate where the American and French oak barriques show their influence. The finish is deceptively soft with complex tannins, which take a few moments to assert themselves. It has a very long finish with new flavours appearing well after you have swallowed the wine. The lack of aggression or harshness means that it is completely approachable and drinkable now." **Cellar:** This wine will "live" for 10 years easily.

MIRAMAR SEMILLON 2000:

Winemaker Ian MacRae.

Winemaker's Notes: "Clean varietal nose. Fresh, flavoursome and with a distinctive herbal character. It is a satisfying wine with a long clean finish. There is good acid but there is also something to taste!" **Cellar:** "A wine you can drink now or keep." At about 5 years bottle development core complexity is evident, but the wine will live much longer.

PANKHURST PINOT NOIR 2000: Winemaker Sue Carpenter (Lark Hill).

Winemaker's Notes: "Our aim is to produce a full-bodied wine more toward the Burgundy style. A percentage of whole bunch maceration in the ferment and then pressed out into quality French barriques for one year. The wine displays rich cherry fruit characters and is well balanced with soft tannins and good acid levels. **Cellar:** 5 to 10 years."

RIMFIRE VERDELHO 2000: Winemaker Tony Connellan.

Winemaker's Notes: "The bouquet shows soft tropical fruit aromas of pineapple, passionfruit, melon and lime. Delicate on the palate, with mouth filling characters. The wine soft and clean with lingering characters. Selective hand harvesting from the Rimfire Vineyard has captured a premium wine which to many typifies the taste of Queensland - in a bottle." **Cellar:** Estimated potential 5 years.

TRENTHAM ESTATE VIOGNIER 2001: Winemaker Tony Murphy.

Winemaker's Notes: "Immediately after harvesting, the grapes were destemmed, crushed and the must chilled and placed into the press. The skins were pressed and the cold juice left to settle for 36 hours. Once clarified the juice was fermented with a selected yeast for three weeks until dryness before the wine was bottled in August 2001. No wood aging or malolactic fermentation was carried out. The wine has exotic fragrant aromas of apricot and peach with a full soft palate finishing dry." **Cellar:** "Drink early while young and fresh."

WILLOW BRIDGE ESTATE SAUVIGNON BLANC 2001:
Winemaker Rob Bowen.

Winemaker's Notes: "This pungent Sauvignon Blanc has been crafted using fully matured grapes grown in the cool Pemberton region of Western Australia. Cold fermentation in tank has retained all the richness and depth of this variety. The nose has plenty of gooseberry and herbaceous flavours that carry on to the palate which is full with crisp acidity and great length." **Cellar:** "This is a wine to enjoy with its fresh fruit flavours. So consume in the first 1 to 2 years or cellar it carefully for up to 8 years."